



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the citizens of the Empire State appreciate the various seasons they experience as residents of the Great Northeast and the natural scenic beauty that accompanies their arrival; winter is especially magnificent in New York State, transforming the Catskills and Adirondacks into glistening, snow-capped vistas and blanketing the entire landscape from Buffalo to Montauk in a brilliant layer of fresh fallen snow; and

Whereas, the winter season also offers an abundance of recreational and cultural activities for New Yorkers and visitors to our great State – challenging slopes and trails at our many premier ski areas, skating at community rinks, ice carnivals, seasonal concerts and holiday gatherings; and

Whereas, like all seasons, winter presents New Yorkers with climatic challenges; last year's severe storms – beginning on Christmas Day and continuing into early January, on President's Day, and again in early April – serve as stark reminders of the dangers brought by the cold weather and the effect it can have on our transportation network and our everyday lives; and

Whereas, it was through the devotion and determination of thousands of State and local personnel that we overcame the challenges and personal hardships presented by those intense storms, yet we must be prepared for similar harsh weather conditions in the season ahead; and

Whereas, all citizens are encouraged to take some critical, common-sense measures, right now, to better prepare for the approaching winter season that help reduce many of the hazards and inconveniences caused by major storms; all citizens are urged to install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in their residences, inspect and service their furnaces, woodstoves and chimney flues to ensure they are in safe and good working order, perform a "winter checkup" of their vehicles, and adjust their mind-set to be ready and alert to winter driving conditions; and

Whereas, agencies of the New York State Disaster Preparedness Commission will continue to maintain a strong partnership with local governments, the private sector, volunteer organizations and the National Weather Service to educate, inform and assist New Yorkers in preparing for potentially harsh weather conditions in the coming winter; by taking sensible and smart actions now, we all can enjoy the pleasures of winter in New York State with a greater sense of comfort and safety;

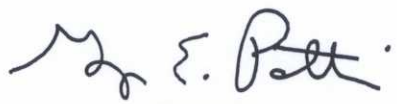
Now, Therefore, I, George E. Pataki, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim November 2-8, 2003 as

WINTER PREPAREDNESS WEEK

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this second day
of October in the year two thousand three.


Governor


Secretary to the Governor